

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate Bilic's selecting whether to process packet or send to storage, thereby avoiding the computer in Muller's system to reduce the burden of frame reassembly imposed on the host processor.

Applicants respectfully assert that there is simply no support in the '085 app. for the rejection of the limitation in claim 21 of "a mechanism for ... selecting whether to process said packet by said computer or to send data from said packet to the storage unit, thereby avoiding the computer," and for that reason claim 21 and all the claims that depend from claim 21 are nonobvious over Muller in view of Bilic.

Regarding claim 28, the Office Action states, in part:

Muller does not explicitly disclose:

- Selecting, by the interface device, whether to process the packet by the computer or to send the data from the packet to the storage unit, thereby avoiding the computer.

The Office Action admits that Muller does not disclose "selecting whether to process said packet by said computer or to send data from said packet to the storage unit, thereby avoiding the computer." Applicants respectfully assert, as noted above, that the '085 app. also does not disclose this limitation. Because neither Muller nor the '085 app. teach or suggest "a mechanism for ... selecting whether to process said packet by said computer or to send data from said packet to the storage unit, thereby avoiding the computer," applicants respectfully assert that claim 28 and all the claims that depend from claim 28 are nonobvious over Muller in view of Bilic.

### III. Conclusion

In this Supplemental Reply, applicants have further demonstrated that the Office Action has not presented a prima facie case of obviousness for any of the claims. As such, applicants respectfully assert that the application is in condition for allowance, and a notice of allowance is solicited.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 18, 2007.

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